

Human Ethology Newsletter

1978

#22

Editor Cheryl Travis Dept. of Psychology

Univ. of Tenn. Knoxville, Tenn. 37916

SOCIETY FOR HUMAN ETHOLOGY ELECTION OF OFFICERS

The Society for Human Ethology will have a governing structure consisting of a President and an eight-person executive committee chaired by the President. The President shall be elected by the membership. The executive committee shall be elected by the membership with the PROVISIO that the elected members must have at least one person from each of the following disciplines:

| | |
|-----------------|----------------------|
| Animal Behavior | Anthropology |
| Psychology | Other Social Science |

The ballots were tabulated by Glen Weisfield at Wayne State University.

The following people were elected to the executive committee in the recent balloting. Many of them will be at the Animal Behavior Society meeting. I suggest you share your ideas and concerns with them by mail if you cannot attend the meeting.

Charlesworth, William, Ph.D. 1962, Cornell, Professor, Institute of Child Development, Univ. of Minnesota. Foreign member of Human Ethology Team, Max Planck Institute for Behavioral Physiology, Percha, Germany. Research Interests: development of methods for observing children in everyday settings, cognitive behavior and adaptation, ontogenetic and comparative studies of toolusing behavior, exploratory and expressive behavior in children.

Eibl-Eibesfeld, Irenaus, Ph.D. 1950, Univ. of Vienna. 1951-1969 Research associate at the Max-Planck-Institute of Behavioural Physiology. Head of the independent research unit on human ethology of the Max-Planck-Institute of Behavioural Physiology. Since 1963 attached to the University of Munich. Research Interests: Human Ethology. Cross cultural documentation of unstaged human behavior. Exploration of the ontogeny and phylogeny of strategies of social interactions, non-verbal communication, aggression, control of aggression, patterns of bonding, cultural ritualisation.

King, Glenn E., Ph.D. in Anthropology, U.C. Berkeley, 1971. Associate Professor of Anthropology, Monmouth College, N.J. Research Interests: evolution of human behavior, esp. aggression, socioterritorial organization, & gender differences. Identification: anthropology.

Lockard, Joan S., Ph.D., 1963, Univ. of Wisconsin (Madison), Associate Professor (1974-present) Depts. of Psychology & Neurological Surgery, Univ. of Washington; Research Affiliate, Regional Primate Center; Research Affiliate, Child Development & Mental Retardation Center; Research Associate, Seattle Zoological Gardens. Research interests animal behavior, primate & human ethology, sociobiology. Discipline: Psychology

McGrew, William C. Ph.D., 1970. Univ. of Oxford, Oxford England. Lecturer in Psychology, Univ. of Stirling, Stirling Scotland: Co-director Stirling African Primate Project. Research Interests: ethology of child behavior; agonistic behavior; group formation in preschool children; predatory behavior & tool use among chimpanzees. Discipline: Animal behavior.

Omark, Don. Ph.D., 1972, Univ. of Chicago. Affiliation: Office of Bilingual Bicultural Education, Urbana Illinois. Research Interests: Human development; human ethology Disciplinary identification: Human ethology/education.

Simons, Ronald C. M.D., Washington Univ., St. Louis, Mo., M.A. (anthropology) Univ. of California, Berkeley, CA. Affiliation: Associate Professor, Dept. of Psychiatry & Dept. of Anthropology, Michigan State Univ. Research Interests: Social behavior of pig-tailed macaques, cross-cultural psychiatry (S.E. Asia), Human Ethology. Disciplinary Identification: Psychiatry & Anthropology.

Travis, Cheryl, Ph.D., 1971, Univ. of California, Davis. Assoc. Professor of Psychology, Univ. of Tennessee, Knoxville. Research Interests: Ethological studies of social behavior in all age groups; Ontogeny of affiliative systems

among children; nonverbal behavior; gender differences. Disciplinary Identification: Psychology.

NEW JOURNALS

Ethology and Sociobiology

A new journal, Ethology and Sociobiology, has been developed. A formal invitation for manuscripts will appear soon. The emphasis of the journal is human ethology and sociobiology. Papers dealing primarily with nonhuman species will be acceptable to the journal provided the implications for human studies are set forth. Integral to the development of the journal have been negotiations with the publisher (Elsevier-North Holland) to minimize publication delays. The editors have also agreed to rapid review of manuscripts. All manuscripts will be referred by at least two editors and/or consulting editors.

The journal will have two editorial boards: one to cover North America, South America, and the Pacific, including Japan; the other to cover Europe, Africa, and Asia. The European-African-Asian Editor in Chief is Nick Blurton Jones. His editorial board will be named presently. Members of the Americas-Pacific editorial board include:

Michael T. McGuire, University of California, Los Angeles, Editor-in-Chief

Richard Alexander, University of Michigan

David Barash, University of Washington

Jerome Barkow, Dalhousie University

Irv DeVore, Harvard University

Paul Ekman, University of California,

San Francisco.

John Fentress, Dalhousie University

Daniel G. Freedman, University of Chicago

William Hamilton, University of Michigan

Adam Kendon, Australian National University

Melvin Konner, Harvard University

Joan Lockard, University of Washington

Robert Marvin, University of Virginia

William McKinney, Jr., University of

Wisconsin

Lionel Tiger, Rutgers University

Robert Trivers, Harvard University

NEWSLETTERS

The newsletter; Nonverbal Components of Communication, Paralanguage, Kinesics, Proxemics, has been revived with Rosalyn Lindn as editor. The newsletter contains information about new books, films, meetings, workshops, etc. For more information write: Dr. Rosalyn Lindner, Dept. of Geography/Sociology, State Univ. College at Buffalo, 1300 Elmwood Avenue, Buffalo, New York 14222.

The Biobehavioral Digest is published by the Institute for Interdisciplinary Studies, Inc., 1247 N. Notre Dame Ave., South Bend, IN 46617. A recent issue contained notices on books, journal articles, about Beriberi, genetic abnormalities, and Animal Learning among other topics.

REVIEWS

The journal Man-Environment Systems has just published (February, 1978) a monograph entitled, SPATIAL STRUCTURINGS IN EVERYDAY FACE-TO-FACE BEHAVIOR: A NEUROCYBERNETIC MODEL by Robert Deutsch with commentary by Michael Argyle and Mary Ritchie Key. This publication can be purchased for \$2.00 from The Association for the Study of Man-Environment Relations, P.O. Box 57, Orangeburg, New York 10962.

Deutsch, Robert D. SPATIAL STRUCTURINGS IN EVERYDAY FACE-TO-FACE BEHAVIOR: A NEUROCYBERNETIC MODEL. Review. Joan S. Lockard, Univ. of Washington.

One of the most difficult problems in the study of human social behavior is narrowing the research subject sufficiently to permit systematic observations or experimental manipulations. Previous refuge in the rationalization that human behavior is complex more often than not addressed our inability to focus on the most relevant aspects of the research interest. The monograph by Robert Deutsch on spacial structuring in face-to-face behavior illustrates well the scientific gain to be had in simplifying the object of concentrated study. In addition to detailed spacial-temporal analyses of face-to-face interactions which his investigation provides, its main contribution is the "geometry" of the research approach. The trapezoidal model utilized in the study of the formation of conversational clusters of individuals (i.e., face-formations reduces complex temporal sequences of orientation, spacing and postural adjustments to

understandable essentials.

A face-formation is segregated into three consecutive nonverbal behavioral components: 1) A probe which is the expression of one's willingness to engage in a face-formation; 2) a proposal as to what spatial orientation arrangement among the participants will be maintained; and 3) an acceptance of the relative spacing and orientation of the other participants by not compensating for their maneuvers. A geometry of the face-formation is then developed where the space around the feet of each participant is depicted by a trapezoid, called a transactional segment. The base of the trapezoid (the shorter of its two parallel lines) is created on the ground by dropping an imaginary perpendicular line from the lateral extension of each shoulder of an individual and connecting the two points on the ground. The crown of the trapezoid is a longer line parallel to the base. The base and the crown are connected by two lines (called legs) at a 45 degree angle to the base to complete the trapezoid. The transactional segment for each individual has a base of approximately 2 feet and is assigned a crown of 6 feet long spaced at a perpendicular distance of 2 feet from the base (see diagram below) in accord with findings in the literature on personal space.*

In the application of his model on the geometry of face-formation, the author is able to reduce essentially 2200 hours of detailed analyses of movie film from natural occurring conversational clusters of individuals to the simple statement that for a face-formation to exist "... each individual's transactional segment must overlap with at least one other person's transactional segment and the base of each individual's transactional segment must not be more than 90 degrees out of phase with respect to the base of at least one other individual's transactional segment." If after a face-formation is formed, a member moves so as to change the spatial orientation, the other participants move in a chain of reactions to reestablish the formation.

Deutsch's model is also able to define the spatial arrangements under which a new member may join an already formed face-formation, a potential participant may be excluded, a member may depart temporarily or more permanent leave-taking may be initiated. If an individual is to be admitted, he probes the face-formation by stopping a short distance away while the crown of each member's transactional segment becomes non-overlapping with respect to the segments of the other participants so as to open-up a "bonding site" for the new member. The transactional segments become more overlapping if an individual is

not to be admitted. A member who departs briefly may return without going through a probe phase again if the other members have not compensated for his leave-taking by adjusting their orientation so as to close the vacated bonding site. If permanent leave-taking is to transpire, a rite of departure is commenced where oscillations of movements outward and then inward signal the member's intention before the "away phase" is evinced. (A recent study by Lockard et al., 1978 helps to alleviate the research void on departure behavior to which the author alludes.)

Building on Kendon and Ferber's greeting study (1974) the validity of Deutsch's spatial-temporal analyses of face-formation is documented with several behavioral sequences of conversational clusters. The reader soon becomes intrigued with, if not altogether convinced by, the marvelously simplifying geometry. The clarity of the author's empirical treatise, however, is followed by a theoretical discussion superfluous to the research approach utilized. Hypothesizing an ultrastable system of feedback and equilibrium is an unnecessary embellishment of the geometry of the proposed model and detracts from its relevance to the immediate data. At the very least, such theorizing is not scientifically parsimonious and merely pays lip service to any underlying neurophysiological substratum. To suggest, if only by analogy, that "...a group of individuals in a face-formation adapts to its environment" provides little understanding of the communication processes involved. It would be considerably more productive to focus on determining the ontogeny of the signals utilized by individuals in forming and maintaining a face-formation then to propose an all encompassing mechanism such as homeostasis.

Apart from the discussion, this reviewer was fascinated by the proposed trapezoidal model and the possibility of fruitfully applying similar models to other seemingly complex social situations.

Kendon and Ferber, A. "A description of some human greetings." In R. P. Michael and J. H. Crook (eds.), Comparative Ecology and Behavior of Primates. London and New York: Academic Press, 1973, pp. 591-668.

Lockard, J. S., Allen, D. J., Schiele, B. J. and Wiemar, M. J. Human postural signals: Stance, weight-shifts and social distance as

* See figure page 7.

intention movements to depart. *Animal Behaviour*, 1978, 26;219-224,

COLLEAGUES & COLLABORATORS

. Dr. Armin Heymer, D.Sc. was born in 1937, studied zoology and botany and was resident ornithologist at Wangerooze Island/North Sea. Since 1959 he regularly worked at the Laboratoire Arago/Southern France, Attache de Recherches au C.N.R.S. in 1965, and staff member at the Institute for General Ecology at Brunoy. In 1967/68 he worked at the Institute for Speleological Research at Moulis/Pyrenees. He received his Ph.D. with Pierre-Paul Grasse and habilitated in 1970 at the Sorbonne in Ethology. In 1971 he was a visiting scientist as a guest of the Israel Academy of Sciences at the University of Tel-Aviv. His special interest is the behaviour of dragonflies. However, he has worked with saltwater fish. His travels led him to field work in many Mediterranean countries, in the Near East and in the Red Sea. Most recently he turned to the study of human ethology. His special interest are the Pygmies. His current address is: 4, Av. du Petit Chateau, F-91800 BRUNOY, France.

Daniel Krakauer (1915, U.S.A.). Studied zoology at Cornell University and John Hopkins, and dynamic psychology at Brooklyn College and in psychoanalysis. Currently, President of a manufacturing organization. Major professional interest; the management and motivation of human beings. Related interest: the evolution and nature of human nature.

FORUM

In the March Forum Joan Lockard made reference to a paper by Daniel Krakauer. He has since indicated that he would be willing to make copies of his paper available to interested readers who would like to pursue the topic further. Personal information about Dr. Krakauer and his current address are listed under Colleagues and Collaborators.

There is a correction to Joan's Forum paper of the March newsletter. The initial thoughts about self-deception presented in Dawkins' book, *The Selfish Gene*, should be attributed to Robert Trivers. The statement from the Forum should read as follows...

Dawkins (1976) in his book, *The Selfish Gene*, argued that deceit is fundamental to

animal communication and there should be strong selection to detect deception. Trivers, the foreward to this book, carried the idea further by suggesting that the probability of detection, in turn, ought to select for a degree of self-deception...

Evolution, Sexuality, and Gender Roles

The announced topic for this month's Forum is indicated in the above title. Some of the questions pertinent to this topic concern mating or marriage systems, parental investment, and the "battle of the sexes." Several readers have responded that it is an interesting topic, but one which they have not thoroughly analyzed. Some indicated that the three month time allotment from announcement to paper deadlines was not adequate to allow a careful treatment. Therefore, I have postponed the Forum on this topic and intend to adopt it as the Forum for the fall newsletter. Please send your comments to me (Cheryl Travis) by Oct. 1.

Although there is usually a specific Forum topic, readers should feel free to submit other essays and papers which they would like to see presented in the Forum section. A Forum essay should be 1000 to 2000 words with a streamlined bibliography. You do not need an invitation to send an essay.

January Forum

The topic for the January Forum will be announced at a later date.

March Forum

The March issue of the Forum will be concerned with the relevance of modern hunter-gatherers to the evolution of human behavior. One point of focus concerns the theoretical question of whether or not such groups are at all relevant. A second point of focus is a methodological issue, in that the extent to which information about such groups is relevant may be highly dependent on the type of methodology adopted.

Accordingly, the following statement is offered as a proposition for debate: Given appropriate methodology, recent hunter-gatherer groups are extremely relevant

to the reconstruction of human behavioral evolution. One point of view might be that each hunter-gatherer group has its own unique recent history and therefore cannot become a basis for generalization to Homo; the alternative point of view might be that information about such groups is not only relevant, but essential to a discipline of human ethology.

The topic was suggested by Glen King and he will edit this issue of the Forum. If you have any thoughts and care to express them formally, submit an essay to Glen (his address is listed as a member of the executive committee on page 1) by February first of 1979.

MEETINGS

Political Psychology Society

Scholars throughout the world with an interest in political psychology are now inviting those involved in similar concerns to join them in the newly founded International Society of Political Psychology. ISPP was formed this fall by leaders in psychiatry, government, anthropology, psychology, sociology and political science.

The first annual meeting of the International Society of Political Psychology will be held at the Americana Hotel in New York from September 2 through 4, 1978, under the chairmanship of Harold Lasswell. The keynote address will be given by Abraham Kaplan, with invited addresses by Fawn Brodie and Albert Somit. In addition there will be informal conversation hours with Richard Sennett and Milton Rokeach.

Among the panels is one entitled "Human Ethology and Political Psychology" which is being chaired by Carol Barner-Barry. The four papers include:

Gail Zivin, "The Relation of Facial Gestures to Conflict Outcomes."

Fred F. Strayer, "Dominance, Leadership and Control Roles in Groups of Young Children."

Roger Masters, "Candidates and Chimpanzees: Attention Structure, Nonverbal Communication and Political Campaigns."

Henry Beck, "Withdrawal from Viet Nam: Four Biobehavioral Studies."

A second panel, Biology & Politics, will be chaired by Kenneth D. Bailey, Univ. of Arkansas. PAPERS: Roger D. Masters, Dartmouth College, Attention Structure and Presidential Campaigns. Carol Barner-Barry, Leigh University. The Biological Correlates of Power and Authority: Dominance and Attention Structure. Meredith W. Watts, Univ. of Wisconsin-Milwaukee. Psychophysiological Studies of Violence-related Attitudes. Kenneth D. Bailey, Univ. of Arkansas. Biological Time and Political Behavior: A Speculative Attempt at Understanding 'Erratic' Political Actions. DISCUSSANTS: Steve Maxon, Univ. of Connecticut. Albert Somit, SUNY Buffalo.

Second National Conference on Body Language

Thursday-Friday, Oct. 19-20, 1978, 9:30 am 5:00 pm. Graduate School & University Center of the City University of New York, 33 West 42 St., New York, N.Y. 10036. Registration is limited: General Public \$30.00, Students \$15.00. Please make check payable to: BODY LANGUAGE, CUNY GRAD SCHOOL and send to: Dr. Stephen Thayer, National Conference on Body Language, Dept. of Psychology, City College of the City University of New York, Convent Avenue at 138 St., N.Y., N.Y. 10031.

Dr. Carroll Izard
Discrete Emotion Expression in Early Infancy

Dr. Paul Ekman
About Face: Distinguishing Emotional and Conversational Signals

Dr. Martha Davis and Dr. Shirley Weitz
Analyzing Nonverbal Sex Differences: Naive and Trained Observations

Dr. Miles Patterson
Nonverbal Intimacy Exchange; Problems and Prospects

Dr. George Mahl
Bodily Enactments-Reenactments of Interpersonal Experiences

Dr. Norber Freedman, Dr. Felix Barroso, and Dr. Stanley Grand
Kinesic Filtering in Psychopathology: Comparison of Schizophrenics, Depressives, and Borderline Patients

Dr. Ralph Exline
Nonverbal Behaviors of Candidates in the
Presidential Debates of 1976: Possible
Correlates of Perceived Competence

Dr. Robert Rosenthal
Diogenes, Pygmalion, and the PONS: Deception,
Sex, and Eavesdropping in Nonverbal Communica-
tion

Dr. Albert Schefflen
 General Discussant

ABS Regional Meetings

Monmouth College, New Jersey, will host the 1978 Northeastern Regional Meeting of the Animal Behavior Society from October 20-23, 1978 in West Long Branch, NJ. Morning Plenary sessions will focus on recent empirical studies of reciprocity, an examination of the pheromone concept, and applications of animal behavior in anthropology. Paper & poster sessions are invited for afternoon sessions, and films, a banquet, and social get together are planned for the evenings. There will be opportunities after the meetings to tour the Jersey shore. Trips being planned include visits to Sandy Hook Marine Behavior Lab and Brigantine Wildlife Sanctuary (spectacular concentrations of waterfowl and shorebirds exceeding 100,000 birds in late October). Registration fees of \$8.00 (\$5.00 student) should be sent to us by August 1 (make checks payable to Animal Behavior Society Meeting). Additional information on hotel rates and meal plan will be included. Correspondence may be directed to Jack or Lorrie Demarest in the Dept. of Psychology, Monmouth College, West Long Branch, New Jersey, 07764, USA.

Contributed papers will be presented on two afternoons; each paper will be limited to 15 minutes. Poster papers will remain up for the duration of the meetings. You will be expected to be present during a Sunday evening poster session hour for questions. Abstracts should be typed in a 3x7 inch space, including title, authors, institutional affiliation, text and acknowledgements (single spaced), leaving no top or left margins. Send the original plus one copy to the program officer, Jack Demarest, Dept. of Psychology, Monmouth College, East Long Branch, New Jersey 07764. On a separate sheet indicate the title of the paper, author(s) whether it is a 15 minute paper or a poster paper, and whether you need special visual

aids. If you wish to be notified of your position on the program, include a self-addressed postcard with your transmittal form listing author(s) and title of paper.

The deadline for submitting abstracts is August 15.

NEW INSTITUTE

A new Institute for Nonverbal Communication Research is being formed in New York under the directorship of Martha Davis. It will open in the fall and "will serve behavioral researchers, educators, artists and those helping professions interested in nonverbal communication research and its applications. The institute for Nonverbal Communication Research was formed in response to the increasing interest in the psychological and anthropological understanding of body movement, spacing, touch patterns and gaze behavior."

The Institute will conduct seminars, workshops, conferences and publish its proceedings. Membership is \$25.00 for a charter membership (before September 15, 1978) and \$35.00 after September 15.

Anyone interested in joining should write to Martha Davis, 5 W. 86th Street, New York, N.Y. 10024.

Among the people on the advisory council are Margaret Mead, Al Schefflen, Paul Byers, William Condon, Adam Kendon, Robert Rosenthal, Judith Kestenberg. The Institute will offer conferences, seminars and workshops on non-verbal communication. It will also circulate a newsletter among its members.

BOOKS

ETHOLOGICAL DICTIONARY by Armin Heymer, Verlag Paul Parey, Lindenstrasse 44-47, D 1 BERLIN 61, Germany.

This ETHOLOGICAL DICTIONARY is intended as a reference work of ethological terms. Illustrations further help to clarify many of the behaviour patterns referred to. Hence, a comprehensive overview of the "language of ethologists" is given. This dictionary in three languages is designed to help overcome the communication barrier in these languages.